City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: October 13, 2010

TO: Creeks Restoration/Water Quality Improvement Program
                 Citizen Advisory Committee

FROM: Cameron Benson, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

SUBJECT: Manager's Program Update – For Information

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on various program activities and other City projects related to creeks and water quality.

Creek Week

Over 1,500 community members participated in 23 events during Santa Barbara's 11th Annual Creek Week, held September 25 – October 3. Coordinated by the City Creeks Division, County Project Clean Water, the City of Carpinteria, and the City of Goleta, Creek Week kicked off with the 26th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day on September 25th, where an impressive 5,110 pounds of trash and debris was removed from beaches and creeks Countywide.

On Wednesday, September 29th, Creeks Division and Public Works staff joined COAST and 12 community members for a Walking Wednesdays Tour of Mission Creek restoration, fish passage, and flood control projects. Participants were bused to Mission Creek at Canon Perdido Street, and walked along the creek back to the beach, stopping at several sites along the way. On Thursday, September 30th, employees from Horny Toad Activewear along with several community volunteers helped plant over 200 native plants at the Mission Creek Restoration and Fish Passage Project at Oak Park.

Other events during the week-long celebration included various creek and beach clean-ups, presentations about efforts to restore the endangered steelhead trout to our local creeks, tours of the Arroyo Hondo Preserve and the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve, bird walks with the Santa Barbara Audubon Society and the City of Goleta, and a closing celebration hosted by Art From Scrap's Green Schools Program at the Watershed Resource Center.

cc: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director